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THE Fatherland

A Weekly

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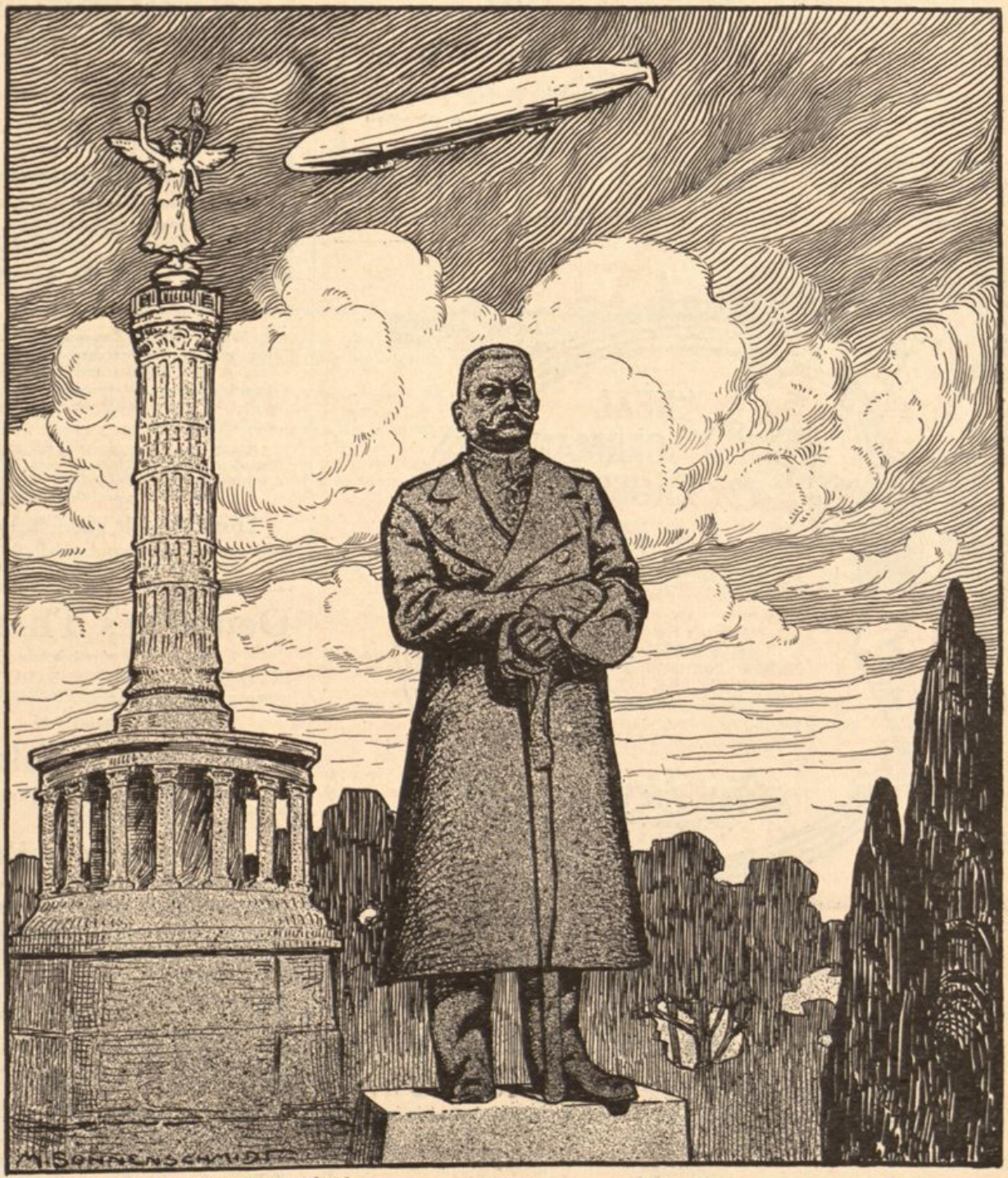

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THE IRON HINDENBURG

THE SCANDAL OF THE NAVY LEAGUE

By Charles A. Collman

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Vol. III. No. 16

The Fatherland

FAIR PLAY *for* GERMANY *and* AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

Edited by George Sylvester Viereck · New York, November 24, 1915

Price 5 Cents

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THE SCANDAL OF THE NAVY LEAGUE

Col. Robert M. Thompson, the Great "Defense Patriot," Now on the Defensive

By Charles A. Collman.

The facts in the case:

The Morgan banking group in Wall Street wish to perpetuate the huge profits they have been making through their mushroom munitions plants.

It is necessary to start a "patriotic National Defense movement," to educate the simple American public to the necessity of spending billions on war armament.

There is in existence a little known society, the Navy League. J. Pierpont Morgan is its leading member, his brother-in-law, Herbert L. Satterlee is its counsel, and Col. Robert M. Thompson, its founder, is chairman of the executive committee.

In February, 1915, the magazine, *The Navy*, dissociates itself from the Navy League and disclaims any connection with its policy.

On June 6, 1915, Colonel Thompson announces that he will hold, at the Recess Club, a Wall Street gathering place, a Navy League luncheon and conference on the "National Defense."

Colonel Thompson invites to his luncheon the members of the Morgan banking group, the munitions makers of Wall Street.

Colonel Thompson says that "the new machinery that has been created to supply war material for the Allies,"—namely, the mushroom war plants of the Morgan group, could profitably accept this $500,000,000 in making the country's war material.

On June 10, 1915, the luncheon is held and is attended by the members of the Morgan banking group, the munitions makers of Wall Street.

They applaud Colonel Thompson's plan for the issue "at once" by the United States Government of $500,000,000 to be spent on armament.

The Wall Street banking group at once subscribed $17,500 toward a propaganda to "educate the public."

The list of subscribers is headed by Morgan, Gary, G. F. Baker, Jr., J. H. Harding, L. L. Clarke, C. N. Bliss, Jr., O. L. Mills, and other members of the Morgan group.

A tremendous campaign of "education" is at once begun throughout the country. But the exposure of these facts has had a disastrous effect on the Navy League's propaganda.

Who Colonel Robert M. Thompson is:

Colonel Robert M. Thompson was recently elected President of the Navy League.

He is chairman of the board of directors of the International Nickel Company, the most recent "war stock" added to the list of the New York Stock Exchange, the price having been driven to above 200 by stories of great profits from sales of its products to war munitions companies.

Colonel Robert M. Thompson was tried and found guilty of violating the Sherman Law in cornering cotton, by Judge Holt, in the Federal Court. On August 4, 1910, he went to the Federal Building in New York and paid his fine of $4,000.

Colonel Thompson is a director and founder of the American Society, organized October 28, 1915, to teach "resident aliens and naturalized citizens" how to become patriotic Americans.

THE scandalous propaganda of the Navy League, intended to hoodwink and despoil the American public, and at the same time further to enrich the munitions makers of Wall Street, was exposed by THE FATHERLAND on September 8 of this year. Colonel Robert M. Thompson, who fathered this scheme, had, up to that time, been very loquacious about the plans of the Navy League. He suddenly subsided. Fearing Morgan's wrath, the New York newspapers dared not republish the story.

Colonel Thompson reasoned that if he kept quiet for a while, THE FATHERLAND's exposé would blow over and be forgotten. He reasoned as the heads of the life insurance companies and the savings banks reason, when they refuse to reply to the question whether they are keeping the public savings on deposit with the banks of the Morgan Syndicate, risking them in the gambling loans to the foreign nations. They think if they remain silent or evasive, they will escape being called to book. They are mistaken. They will learn wisdom by observing the fate of Colonel Thompson.

For while the Colonel was playing possum, THE FATHERLAND's story began to travel. Quietly and unobtrusively it travelled. It was truth seeking a way into the light out of the dark forest of falsehood and deception that has enmeshed the country. And truth always will out.

The story of the Navy League scandal began to be taken up by the newspapers outside of the New York radius. It was republished in magazines. It began to be spoken about from public rostrums. It dogged the sponsors of the Navy League like a Frankenstein; it hurled their statements into ridicule; its clammy hand paralyzed their propaganda. The story suddenly became known from one part of the United States to the other. It crossed the ocean, and today this shameful Wall Street plot is being republished in the leading newspapers of Europe.

Colonel Thompson at last saw that he would have to face the music. He had been driven into a corner, and he realized that he must defend himself or (figuratively) perish. So he notified Mr. William Jennings Bryan that the latter must repudiate statements attributed to him in a speech in Philadelphia, charging that the League was a product of munitions makers. The correspondence was interesting. I shall reproduce it in part.

"Colonel Robert M. Thompson,
President Navy League, Washington.

My Dear Sir: I was absent when your telegram arrived, and it has just been brought to my attention. I took the statement of your position from a speech of yours. It was made at the time you were elected President. I would like to know at once if the statements which I took from your reported speech are correct, as I am expecting to reproduce this speech in my own paper, which goes to press the first of next week. Very truly yours,

W. J. BRYAN.

P. S.—I would also like to have a list of the names of those who contributed at your New York banquet last June, together with the amounts contributed."

Mr. Bryan's little joker is in the postscript. Has the Colonel given Mr. Bryan the requested information? At any rate, in this story I shall make public the names of those who gave their financial aid to the Colonel at his Navy League luncheon, and FATHERLAND readers may judge for themselves who are the backers of this great defense movement.

The pace, however, was growing more and more hot for the Colonel. He had to defend himself from every side. On November 11, he published the following letter in the New York *Times*:

"To the Editor of the New York *Times*:

In the *Times* of November 2 you published a news item headed 'Assails Colonel Thompson,' giving the substance of an article printed in the *Vorwaerts*, "organ of the German Socialist Party," which is probably a rehash of a similar article published some time ago in THE FATHERLAND.

"The article is absolutely untrue as to fact. Of the nineteen gentlemen named, only three were really present at my luncheon, namely, myself, S. H. Pell, and Lewis L. Clarke, Treasurer of the Navy League of the United States. It is apparently an attempt to create prejudice against preparation for national defense by appealing to the sentiment which exists in some minds against successful and wealthy men."

Colonel, in the following pages I shall relate the true story of the Navy League, giving my authorities, and I challenge you to take exception to a single fact I state. You accuse me of appealing to the sentiment against successful and wealthy men. You call yourself, therefore, a "successful and wealthy man." And you think I and others envy you. You are mistaken.

Colonel, I have seen the record in the Federal Courts Building in New York, showing that on August 4, 1910, you paid there your fine of $4,000, after having been found guilty of violating the Federal law in cornering cotton. The time has not yet arrived when Americans envy men of "success and wealth" who have broken their country's laws. On the contrary, I find that there is in the United States a strong and growing feeling of contempt and anger for the men who have gained "success and wealth" by violating the laws made for the protection of the public.

Colonel, you are a director and founder of "The American Society," to teach resident aliens and naturalized citizens how to become good Americans. Do you not think that if the "resident aliens and naturalized citizens" study your career, they will be more inclined to seek to gain "success and wealth" by breaking the laws of their adopted country, than to become good citizens?

But to continue with the Colonel's letter to the *Times*:

"I would not have noticed the article were it not to raise the question why these papers, which appeal to a German audience, should make this marked opposition to a purely American national movement.

"It is worthy of note that the first subscription to the work of the Navy League was made by a leading and patriotic American of German descent. Although this man is quite as prominent as any of the men named, the *Vorwaerts* carefully omits his name. Why?

"From my acquaintance with many Americans of German descent I believe that, as a class, they are as patriotic and as true to our ideals of liberty as any citizens of American origin."

I do not believe that any Americans of German descent will feel flattered by this grudging tribute from the pen of Colonel Thompson. I do not think you will find the names of many Americans of German descent on the records of a Federal Court, alongside that of the Colonel, who forever talks patriotism; who advises the Federal Government to expend $500,000,000 of the people's money for the benefit of himself and his friends, the while his name is recorded as having violated the laws of that same Federal Government.

The Colonel winds up his letter in this wise:

"Why, then, do these German papers take the stand they do? Who is backing the movement to send out as news a rehash of these articles? Is there some sinister influence behind them? Do they represent, not the views or wishes of Germans residing in America, but of some one residing somewhere else who has an interest in preventing America's preparation?

ROBERT M. THOMPSON.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 7, 1915."

Dear, dear, the cat is out of the bag at last—the sinister influence which lurks in the background of my story about the Navy League. It represents the views and wishes of SOMEONE RESIDING SOMEWHERE ELSE THAN IN AMERICA, WHO HAS AN INTEREST IN PREVENTING AMERICA'S PREPARATION.

We all know who that SOMEONE is to whom the Colonel refers. We know him well—the arch criminal of the universe. It is the KAISER, EMPEROR WILLIAM II., OF GERMANY.

SEE now the secret and sinister plot exposed. The Kaiser, fighting a world in arms, suddenly pauses in his work of conquest. Somebody has slipped into his hand one of the 500,000 circulars issued by the Navy League, in which Colonel Thompson calls upon the United States Government to spend $500,000,000 of the people's money on armament for the national defense. The Kaiser's hand trembles as he reads this missive. His cheek pales. He turns to his aides and says in an uncertain voice: "Gentlemen, I have crushed the great empires of Great Britain and Russia, I have annihilated France, I have beaten the Belgian and the Serb, but here, here, gentlemen, is a new enemy who threatens to undo us all—Colonel Robert M. Thompson, of the Navy League.

"Quick, send a secret agent to von Bernstorff at Washington. Have him go to New York at once and hunt up this man Collman, and bribe him to expose this dangerous Colonel in THE FATHERLAND. We must crush this Southern Colonel at all hazards. The safety of the German Empire demands it."

Oh, Colonel, Colonel, you delightful old wag!

It is another great exposé of the wicked German propaganda. I suppose it is already in type in the office of the *Providence Journal*. You see, it works out in this wise. The Colonel, who has a perfect rage for patriotic societies, is also a member of the Pilgrims of the United States. His fellow member is a British-born person by name of John Revelstoke Rathom, who is carrying on an English propaganda in a small provincial newspaper, the *Providence Journal*. The Colonel whispers the terrible story in Rathom's ear. Rathom hurriedly sets it in type. These two Pilgrims have a friend who is also a Pilgrim, Adolph S. Ochs, of the New York *Times*. Rathom's English propagandist stories are always greedily republished on the front page of the *Times* by the Pilgrim, Ochs. I can already see the glaring headline: Kaiser Plots With Collman to Down Colonel Thompson of the Navy League."

Colonel, you do not quite understand why I oppose your "purely American national movement." I shall tell you why. I think the munitions agents of Wall Street, these men of "success and wealth," have made enough millions by violating the neutrality laws of this country in their contraband traffic in war material. I have a decided objection to their thrusting their hands in my pocket and the pockets of my neighbors, in order to abstract from us a cool $500,000,000 in order to bolster up the earnings of their mushroom war plants. As to the question of the national defense, I think that if the people of this country decide upon the necessity for defense measures, the matter can be handled far better by their representatives in Congress than by you and your cronies. If the United States is going to expend $100,000,000 or $500,000,000 on armament, it shall certainly manufacture its guns and ammunition in Government navy yards and Government arsenals, and not buy them from Wall Street millionaire munitions makers, and certainly it shall not buy its nickel from the chairman of the Board of directors of the International Nickel Company.

Now let us examine into this story of the Navy League, and see if it is, as you say, "untrue as to fact."

I quote from the publication, *The Navy*, July, 1914, page 332:

"The Navy League of the United States

Herbert L. Satterlee, Counsel. Directors, J. P. Morgan, New York, N. Y.; Col. Robert M. Thompson, Washington, D. C., Chairman of the Executive Committee.

"A Proposal for a Union of Anglo-Saxon Forces

The Secretary of the British Navy League, Mr. P. J. Hannon, at the dinner of the London Section of the Navy League of the United States, declares, 'That if once the Anglo-Saxon race achieves a perfect international understanding, the peace of the world is secured for all time.' He suggests that the two organizations, the British Navy League and the Navy League of the United States, should co-operate in trying to bring about a closer and more harmonious relationship between the two nations. Should a union of armed nations commence with the United States and England, and include other powers when they are willing to co-operate?"

This was printed one month before the great war in Europe. I confess this does not sound to me like a "purely American national movement." On the contrary, this proposal to unite the American and British navies smacks strongly of Morgan's persistent pro-English propaganda, as exemplified by his Carnegie Hall meeting in 1911, which was succeeded by the creation of his New York Peace Society, headed by the Englishman, Carnegie; the American Peace and Arbitration League, headed by the Englishman, Clews; the National Security League and the Navy League.

Again I quote *The Navy*, February, 1915, page 37. The Navy League plot is afoot. This is seven months after the beginning of the great war:

"THE NAVY LEAGUE

"Beginning with the present number, *The Navy* will cease to carry a Navy League Section. The administration of the League and of *The Navy* have at all times been independent of each other, the Navy League having no control over the matter appearing in the magazine proper, and the magazine proper being in no way responsible for anything appearing in the Navy League Section. Nevertheless, it has been inevitable that so long as *The Navy* carried a Navy League Section, the opinion should be held that the policy of the magazine was in some way connected with the policy of the Navy League. However, there are good reasons why the work of each may succeed better if the separation is carried still farther."

What was the meaning of this singular separation of *The Navy* from its Navy League? The Navy League, hitherto supported by Morgan and his associates for the purpose of advocating the union of the American and British navies, was to expand into a broader campaign, to educate the public into the necessity of expending billions of dollars that the war plants of Wall Street munitions makers might continue to thrive after the European War had ended. *The Navy* could not follow on this path of adventure. The Navy League was now to publish its own magazine, *The Seven Seas*, and Colonel Thompson was to begin his campaign by making this half-forgotten society known from one end of the country to the other. And here is how he began:

From New York *Times*, June 7, 1915, page 4:

"Colonel Robert M. Thompson, chairman of the executive committee, will present to 300 prominent New Yorkers at a luncheon and conference on national defense at the Recess Club, 60 Broadway, on Thursday, the plan of the Navy League of the United States for the investment at once of $500,000,000 in a greater navy and army. 'The most important thing to be considered at the con-

ference,' said Col. Thompson last night, 'will be the petition presented to the President by the Navy League, urging him to call a special session of Congress to authorize the appropriation of $500,000,000 for national defense. We feel it is imperative that action be taken in this matter at once.

'The new machinery that has been created to supply war material for the Allies can be used to provide reserve guns and ammunition which we do not have now.'

"Colonel Thompson is a well known New York financier. Among those who have been invited to attend Thursday's luncheon and conference, are the Rev. Lyman Abbott, E. C. Converse, Paul D. Cravath, J. P. Morgan, Percy Rockefeller, John D. Rockefeller, Frank A. Vanderlip, William G. Rockefeller, Thomas W. Lamont, Elbert H. Gary, D. G. Reid, Seward Prosser, Charles Steele, Francis L. Hine, W. H. Porter, Frederick W. Whitridge, W. A. Clark, Henry P. Davidson, Cornelius Vanderbilt, R. A. C. Smith and Harry Payne Whitney."

WE note that Colonel Thompson speaks of the new machinery that has been created to supply war material for the Allies, as the best medium for filling the order for $500,000,000 in defense armament. This new machinery is nothing less than the war plants created by his Wall Street friends, and the financial institutions affiliated with their operations. Colonel Thompson was vexed because I called attention to the fact that nineteen of the above men he invited to his luncheon were official agents of foreign governments in the purchase of war material, financial backers of the Steel Trust and other corporations making millions from the manufacture of war munitions, and bankers making further millions from such concerns by selling their securities and acting as their transfer agents.

But it is a fact that in the above list are Morgan, Lamont, Porter, Davidson and Steele, all members of J. P. Morgan & Co., official war agents for England, France and Russia; and that these men, with Gary, Converse, Vanderbilt, Mills, Prosser, Pell, Clark, Cravath, Vanderlip and Colonel Thompson, himself, are directors in corporations filling huge war contracts, while Coudert, Percy Rockefeller, Reid, Whitney, Hine and Davidson and others are directors in or officials of banking or financial institutions acting as bondsmen or transfer agents for the munitions companies.

However, let us see how the luncheon progressed on the ensuing Thursday, who was there, and what he gave to this noble cause for his country's welfare.

New York *Times*, June 11, 1915, page 8:

"The Navy League started its campaign for an American Navy second to none in the Recess Club, 60 Broadway. As a result of the discussion which followed, more than $17,500 was subscribed to be used for the League's propaganda. Those at the luncheon included Elbert H. Gary, Theodore P. Shonts, Frederic R. Coudert, Ogden Mills Reid, J. P. Grace, George F. Baker, Jr., Colgate Hoyt, S. H. P. Pell, Harry Payne Whitney, Herbert L. Satterlee and Seward Prosser. Subscriptions announced after the meeting were as follows: J. P. Morgan estate, $2,000; R. M. Thompson, $1,000; E. H. Gary, $1,000; G. F. Baker, Jr., $1,000; J. H. Harding, $500; L. L. Clark, $250; Seward Prosser, $100; C. N. Bliss, Jr., $100; J. P. Grace, $100, and O. L. Mills, $100."

Let us now analyze the activities of some of these gentlemen who contributed toward the Navy League's propaganda.

For the J. P. Morgan estate, a contribution of $2,000 toward the Navy League's campaign is a profitable investment, it being so heavily interested in the Steel Trust, the filler of huge war contracts.

Elbert H. Gary, also, is chairman of the Steel Trust.

George F. Baker, Jr., is vice-president of the First National Bank and director of the Chase National, both members of the Morgan war loan syndicate.

J. Horace Harding is a member of Charles D. Barney & Company, director in the Columbia Trust and Metropolitan Trust Companies, all three members of the Morgan war loan syndicate.

Lewis L. Clarke is director of the American Locomotive Company, a war munitions concern.

Seward Prosser is director in the International Nickel Company and the Railway Steel Spring Company, besides being President of the Bankers Trust Company, member of the Morgan war loan syndicate.

Cornelius N. Bliss, Jr., is trustee of the Central Trust, of the United States Trust and director of the Mechanics and Metals National Bank, all members of the Morgan war loan syndicate.

J. P. Grace is director of the National City Bank and trustee of the New York Trust Company, members of the Morgan war loan syndicate.

Ogden L. Mills is a director of the Lackawanna Steel Company, a munitions concern, filling enormous war orders.

Let us see what is being done with the money contributed by these gentlemen of Wall Street to the propaganda of the Navy League. We shall quote the League's own organ now, *The Seven Seas*, July, 1915, pages 34 and 35;

The burial of a brave man—Pegoud's funeral

THE GERMAN AIR-MAN

By Leo Gregory

A HUNDRED bird-men had flown to Chavannes;
For Pegoud was dead—the King of the Air!
Killed in a duel above the clouds—
"May his soul rest in peace!"—his comrades' prayer.

Chanted the plaintive Mass of the Dead;
Sweetly the Benedictus was said;
Tearful the Absolution was read;
"Have mercy, Lord!" the Curé plead.

A shot! A shout! And every one starts!
The roar of a war-plane! "A German!" "En haut!"
Ten air-men rush to their planes, and mount
To punish the heartless or hare-mad foe!

The enemy comes with the speed of the wind;
Then circles, and drops what seems a grenade;
"How wantonly cruel! On such a day!
Of what is the heart of a German made?"

"It does not explode! Pray what can it be?"
They carefully open the packet—and lo!
A wreath of immortelles—and billet—
"To the noble dead, from his German foe."

ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL OF THE NAVY LEAGUE.

"Colonel Thompson, in introducing Admiral Fletcher, explained the purposes of the banquet. 'And I say to you tonight what I believe to be true, that the only wise thing for the United States to do is to issue bonds for at least $500,000,000 and entrust the expenditure to the navy, not to a lot of Congressmen who don't know, who are not technically informed as to what should be done, nor to ask them to impose the limitations.'

Page 37:

"It was reported that the League's Naval Information Bureau had supplied over 200 debating societies with pamphlets, data and special information requested. Newspaper and magazine writers were supplied with facts and data for articles and the League had distributed 34 different pamphlets to the number of 500,000 copies."

Here, then we have the story of the Navy League.

Colonel Thompson, will you take from me a word of advice? That record of yours in the Federal Building can never be expunged. How can you explain away to Congress the presence of your associates of Wall Street, the members of war munitions companies, of war loan syndicates, in the directorate of the Navy League? Cease your campaign for an appeal to Congress. How can you go before "a lot of Congressmen" and ask them for a $500,000,000 bond issue, when you will not entrust the expenditure to them? I fear they will laugh you out of the chambers.

Colonel, efface yourself from this "patriotic" movement, and still the propaganda of the Navy League.

It really will not do.

ADVENTURES IN BELGIUM UNDER GERMAN RULE

By Louis Viereck

(*Staff Correspondent of* THE FATHERLAND)

MOST countries divide the day into twice twelve hours, but Belgium distinctly records twenty-four hours. You are not asked to 5 o'clock tea, but take your cup at 17 o'clock. But that is one of the least difficulties with which the visitor to Belgium has now to contend with. On my arrival at Brussels I found my watch had stopped. I had it repaired, but the watchmaker put its hands one hour behind the normal time. He was a "true" Belgian, and clung to the old pre-German time although, after the German occupation, the Central-European time had been introduced. That is Germany's official time, which prior to the occupation of Belgium had extended as far as the frontier-station of Herbestal.

I gathered later that the entire population of Belgium in private life uses "Belgian time," the same time is also used on the branch-lines, say, between Waterloo and Wavre. Theatres and picture-shows, on the other hand, indicate both times. The consequences are often unpleasant to the stranger. For example, I know of a German traveler who made a business appointment with a Belgian. They were both punctual, but the former arrived in official time, and the latter in Belgian time. So of course they missed each other. That obstinacy on the part of the Belgians is almost childish and harms them most of all.

The German Administration is not concerned with the question whether its work in Belgium will be permanent or temporary, and in the latter case, how long its functions will last. The new Administration simply endeavors to restore, as efficiently and quickly as possible, order, security, and economic prosperity in that unhappy land where many of our deadly enemies, the fanatical franctireurs, still live. Our field-greys who are largely garrisoned in Belgium look after the order and security. Their activity is interesting and many-sided, and I shall return to their work later on. I am now going to deal with the German Administration and its technical preparations for the revival of trade and traffic all over Belgium. How much the railway traffic and train services have been improved by Germany is evident from the "railway guide" (offiziaal treinboek is the Flemish title; 130 pages) for Belgium and Northern France. The receding Belgian army did everything it could to make the dense Belgian railway network useless for the hostile pursuer, and destroyed to the best of its power, railway stations, tunnels and bridges. Yet passenger traffic on the more frequented lines has been restored in an astonishingly brief space of time.

Of course it cannot be expected that traffic on the various lines is the same now as it was in times of peace. Several trains are exclusively reserved for the troops. Civilians are on principle only conveyed so far as military needs are not in the way of private travel. As regards vacant seats in railway cars, the railway administration reserves to itself the right to exclude undesirable travelers without stating reasons, and in no case to indemnify anyone who is injured in a railway accident. Since fares are rather high and fully twice as much as railway fares in Germany, traveling in Belgium is no very great pleasure after all. It is now possible to travel from Lille to Lodz, from France to Poland on German railroads. The day may not be far off when a German line will be opened from Calais to Odessa, from the Channel to the Black Sea.

AUSTRIAN CAVALRY SONG

By Hugo Zuckermann

Translated by Ludwig Lewisohn

THERE at the meadow's bound
The dark birds hover.
Danube or Polish ground,
Where's my last cover?
I take no thought!
Ere my soul be carried over,
I shall have fought . . . have fought!

Where the field ridge is steep
Shrieketh the raven.
First, shall they sink me deep
In earth's dark haven?
No care have I!
For multitudes ride brave in
Austria's cavalry.

Across the afterglow
Two crows are hieing.
When, 'neath the Reaper's blow,
Shall we be lying?
No moan be made!
If I but see our banners flying
Above Belgrade!

Very annoying is the strict surveillance to which travelers are subjected. Everyone must carry a passport, a corresponding paper of identification with his photograph which must be officially attested, and another official document about the particular journey. All are suspected of espionage in any case until they can prove that they are harmless bona-fide travelers. Of late the passport regulations in Belgium have become less stringent. However, all those regulations are necessary and justified since espionage flourishes in Belgium more than in any other country, and especially amongst Belgian soldiers. Somehow or other they are smuggled into Belgium via Holland or Luxemburg as peaceful civilians, although the wire entanglements all along the border are electrically charged.

We all know that a pudding is never eaten as hot as it is served. Feminine charm often softens the severity of military regulations. A war correspondent recently wrote to the *Frankfort Gazette* as follows: "One evening whilst I rode from Blankenberghe to Ostende I had a delightful adventure. The service on the electric cars is maintained exclusively by soldiers; the driver and conductor on our particular car were both sailors. Only soldiers were supposed to use the car; civilians need a special permit from the General Command at Bruges. When we left Blankenberghe, three pretty young Flemish girls suddenly boarded the car; they wanted to ride to Wonduyne. The conductor politely objected, and said, 'I am very sorry, ladies.' But one of the Belgian girls pleaded in the homely German dialect of the North West mixed with some French words: 'It's getting so dark, we can't walk any longer.' During the dispute, a young soldier in the car suddenly called: 'If you will kiss each of us we are going to take you along' (*wenn sie jedem einen Kuss geben, nemme mer sie mit*). The one girl who knew a little German did not wait for a second asking and resignedly said: 'Yes, we kiss you all' (*ja, wir geb sie alle einen Kuss*). The conductor who was a sailor no longer objected. All travelers kept ready to receive the fare, and the three girls blushingly kissed their way through the length of the car. Everyone received the three promised kisses."

After the re-opening of the railroad traffic, the postal service had to be reorganized. At first, the system had been quite primitive and consisted mostly of personal news exchange. Officials are so scarce that an extensive postal service hitherto could only be arranged at Brussels, Antwerp, Liége, Verviers, and a few other towns. Correspondence to and from those places is now as good as if they were situated in the German Empire. But other Belgian towns and villages have a slow postal service. As correspondence with Belgium is enormous, it is quite impossible for the Censor to read every letter.

Telephones are restricted to official service, parcels are not dispatched, and telegrams are strictly censored. Thus travelers in Belgium soon realize that they live in grave times of war. But a regular postal service between Belgium and the outside world is very important for the restoration of the entire economic life of Belgium. German newspapers regularly reach Brussels and the other big towns in the country, and may be purchased everywhere for a few coppers. Papers published in Frankfort or the Rhine Provinces only take a few hours to reach Belgium.

In the next place, the German administration had to regulate the monetary system. Belgium belonged to the Latin Convention and used francs. A franc is about two dimes or 80 pfennigs. Marks became valid currency during the occupation, the invariable exchange being one mark equal to francs 1.25. A bank was established which was authorized to issue small notes of one, two, and ten francs. German nickels poured into the country. So there was no lack of small change. Of course two currencies are not an ideal state of things. If you tender a hundred-mark bill or even a twenty-mark bill, a bewildering mixture of small change is returned to you. But the people are at least honest, whereas in Italy the natives are prone to cheat you.

In conclusion, a few words may be said about the present banking system in Belgium. The German administration stepped into a veritable chaos. The Belgian Government had taken good care to remove all cash and notes of the National Bank, as well as the national capital and savings, out of the country in order to make it as difficult as possible for the German victors to revive the economic life of Belgium, and in order to foster the discontent of the Belgian people. But though there were mountains of difficulties, the German administration succeeded jointly with the "Société Générale de Belgique" to revive the "National Bank" which is authorized to issue notes. The notes are covered by precious metals, German money, credits at foreign banks, sound foreign bills of exchange, and foreign treasury bills. The bank helps the economic life of Belgium by purchasing from the distributors of her raw material the sums which are booked to their credit at the Imperial Bank of Germany, and which will not be paid until three months after peace is declared. Thus the Belgian merchants get their money, and yet Germany need not send any money to Belgium during the war.

"THE IRON HINDENBURG"

(The design on the cover of this week's FATHERLAND *is an impressionistic version of the great Hindenburg statue.)*

A RATHER unusual achievement, but one very useful for the good cause of the war-relief work, is to be found today in Berlin. It is the new statue to "Iron Hindenburg." The sculptor, Marschall, made a huge wooden statue of the illustrious conqueror of the Russians, for which he used no less than five hundred and seventy cwt. of alder wood. The figure is about eight times life-size and is forty-three feet high. It has been set up at the foot of the well-known Column of Victory at the Königsplatz, facing the Avenue of Victory (Siegesalle), so that the Field-Marshal stands at the one and the old Roland of Berlin at the other end of this pathway of German glory. Two million nails are expected to be driven through this unique monument. After the war it will stand as a lasting tribute to the great soldier. Since golden, silver and iron nails are used which cost either one hundred or five or one marks each, according to the value of the metal, a very considerable sum will be raised for the war-sufferers, even though only an approximate number of the two million nails are sold. Every one who hammers in a nail may sign his name in the "Golden Hindenburg Book," which the Field-Marshal will receive as a remembrance, and receives besides a badge which marks him as a member of the guild "Zum Eisernen Hindenburg."

This innocent expression of admiration has been denounced as an offense against good taste. The thought that nails should be driven into the statue of a living man, one who will live for a long time to come, has shocked a certain narrow order of mind. But here one may say with good reason that the end justifies the means. Thousands and thousands of people will think of nothing when they hammer in the nail except that they are paying homage to Hindenburg and are at the same time performing a good service according to their heart's desire. The statue is surrounded by beautiful flowers and a number of Russian howitzers captured in the battle of Tannenberg under Hindenburg.

At the unveiling of the statue a princess of the Imperial House was there in person, beside the Imperial Chancellor, as representative of the Imperial family. The enthusiasm was great and at present the "Iron Hindenburg" may be regarded as the most interesting sight in Berlin and perhaps in the whole world.

THE GOOD WORK OF A NEUTRAL LABOR BUREAU

IN our issue of October 13th we called the attention of our readers to the Labor Information and Relief Bureau under the management of Mr. Hans Liebau, 136 Liberty Street. The object of this bureau is to help Germans and Austro-Hungarians who for conscientious or patriotic reasons do not wish to continue or accept work in factories producing war materials for the enemies of Germany and her allies.

To the gratification of all those who generously lent their help to that young organization we are now authorized by Mr. Liebau to state that the work undertaken has not only given results far beyond earlier expectations but is daily and rapidly increasing.

Altogether more than 1,400 applications have been received, out of which over 70% have by means of the bureau been able to obtain work which is not repulsive to their feelings, and by which they can make an honest living for themselves and their families.

Branch offices have now been established at:

Philadelphia—Mr. J. Naschold, manager, 210 New Street.

Bridgeport—Mr. Rich. Zinkernagel, manager, 83 Fairfield Avenue.

Chicago—Dr. M. Niven, manager, 154 West Randolph Street.

Pittsburgh—Dr. W. Zacharias, manager, Hartje Office Building.

Cleveland—Mr. Fritz Baumgaertner, manager, 9511 Euclid Avenue.

These are already showing satisfactory returns.

Much has been done, considering the shortness of time the bureau has been in existence, but much more is waiting to be done. To be able to do it, we have to appeal again and again to all men and women who by offering positions can help their countrymen out of the most terrible dilemma an honest man can find himself in.

We appeal also to the generosity of such who have no positions to offer, to aid by monetary contributions, a cause which is devoted to the noble task of procuring *work* for such who want to work honestly and honorably.

Not only private persons, but associations, clubs, etc., of all kinds might well appropriate part of their collections, etc., to this kind of relief work, which is surely as necessary as any of the many other institutions whose object it is to alleviate suffering in Europe caused by the great war. Nobody but ourselves can take charge of these people here on whom loss of occupation is forced by circumstances entirely beyond their control; only by our own united efforts, concentrated in the office of Mr. Liebau, can help be effectively brought to bear in the right place and in the best way.

All inquiries for, or offers of working places, as well as any contributions in money to be directed to:

Mr. Hans Liebau, 136 Liberty Street, New York.

THE INDICTMENT OF ENGLAND

Record of Anglo-French Conspiracy Against Germany by Five Unprejudiced Witnesses.

By Frederic Franklin Schrader

IT is a deplorable fact in relation to the European war that the average American begins his discussion of the events with the outbreak of hostilities, whereas the real history of the war began ten years before August 4, 1914. It is to be regretted, furthermore, that the German Government lacked the foresight to establish relations with one of the leading newspapers in New York—to buy it outright and control its policy with regard to the manner of presenting the news—in order to counteract the venomous influence which for more than a decade was exercised by England through the New York press upon the public mind of America. Though fifteen months have passed since the outbreak of the war, this press continues uninterruptedly to present but one side of the problems arising in connection with the great tragedy, and though the American people are doubtless by a considerable majority devoted to the motto, "America before England," and inclined to study both sides impartially, they have never been permitted to get a glimpse of the diplomatic events which preceded the war save through the polluted channels of the London press as disseminated by its New York allies.

Now at last an impartial history of the diplomatic machinations by which Germany was forced into the war against her will has been made accessible to the public—and to anticipate any possible suspicion that it is the history of a German partisan, the reader is informed that it was written with no intention of finding its way into public print by the Belgian ministers to London, Paris and Berlin.

Among the documents found in Brussels by the victorious German troops was not only the tell-tale military convention between representatives of Great Britain and Belgium by which Belgium bartered away her neutrality—these papers have been discussed in a previous issue—but the complete reports made by Count de Lalaing, Belgian minister to London; Baron Greindl, Belgian minister to Berlin, and M. A. Leghait, Belgian minister to Paris, the series running from February 7, 1905, to April 26, 1912, after which the reports are rendered by Baron Beyens at Berlin and Baron Guillaume at Paris, concluding July 2, 1915.

Here is the complete history of every important diplomatic move made at the three principal capitals as recorded by trained observers reporting confidentially to their government. We see the Moroccan conspiracy between England and France showing its ugly face, we read these ministers boldly commenting on the sinister influences at work in London and Paris to inspire hostile feelings against Germany, sharp rebuffs of England's petty jealousy of Germany's prosperity, contempt for the snaky press organs beginning their campaign of vilification, notations on King Edward's scheme of isolating Germany, the scheming of Delcassé, etc. No partisan of Germany could possibly present the events preceding the war with a heartier sense of espousal of the justice of her cause than these Belgian diplomats writing under the seal of secrecy to their own government in order to advise it of what is going on behind the scenes. With this feeling doubtless, the German Government has issued the whole correspondence in pamphlet form under the title of "European Politics During the Decade Before the War as Described by Belgian Diplomats." (25 cents; for sale by THE FATHERLAND. Ten cents extra for postage.)

It consists of 144 pages and contains sundry *fac simile* reprints of the original documents, and the correspondence in the original French and in parallel columns the English translation. One of its best features is a carefully written introduction in which the correspondence is skilfully epitomized in a running review of editorial comments, so that the salient parts of the correspondence may be grasped and estimated in their true relationship.

The whole makes the impression of a world-wide criminal conspiracy engineered by Lord Lansdowne, Grey, Delcassé, Poincaré and Edward VII. Seeing France bleeding to death, there seems something like prophecy in M. Leghait's conjecture, written from Paris June 17, 1907: "England is preparing her ground admirably, but has France, who is joining her in her policy, all the necessary guarantees that she will not be the victim of this policy some day?" Seven years before the day which he prophesied would break in sorrow over France, Leghait wrote (same dispatch): "France is contracting a debt of gratitude which will seem heavy to her on the day when England will reveal the purpose for which she wants to use the influences which she had grouped around her."

Baron Greindl in Berlin was so simple (according to those who represent Germany as the arch schemer) that in June 22, 1907, after England's alliance with Japan and her entente with France and Russia were followed by the understanding of Italy with France and England on the Mediterranean question, and by the agreement over Egypt and Morocco, etc., he wrote his government: "Japan is strong enough to guarantee the integrity of China alone *until the day when it will suit her to violate it herself.* It would be hard to admit that England needs Spain's assistance in order to defend her position in Egypt, Cyprus, Malta and Gibraltar. *Who is thinking of attacking it and who, moreover, would have the material means to do so?* France is no less secure in Algiers and Tunis. The danger could only come from one of the signatory powers, if the friendship existing between them at present were to break. *If they do not contain any secret clause, they seem to have been concluded only for the pleasure of leaving Germany outside once more during the regulation of the interests of the world.*"

Assuredly, this compact was designed to isolate Germany and arraign a horde of selfish enemies against her. Seven months later we find Baron Greindl writing (January 27, 1908): "The policy directed by King Edward VII under the pretext of guarding Europe from the imaginary German peril, has created a French danger which is only too real, *and which is a menace above all to us.*" And here occurs a significant passage (same report) which we recommend to the editors of the pro-Allied press in this country:

"Where did M. Delcassé see that Germany was endeavoring to impose her supremacy on other nations? *We are her close neighbors, but for twenty years I have never observed in the Imperial Government the slightest desire to abuse its strength and our weakness. I wish that all the other great powers had used the same consideration toward us.*"

On February 2, 1908, the Belgian minister at Berlin summarizes his view of English and Germany rivalry: *"No one here ever cherished the absurd and impracticable idea of an attack against England; but everybody fears an English attack."* In the middle of 1908 Sir Frank Lascelles was removed against his will from the position of the British Ambassador at Berlin—why? Because, in the words of the Belgian diplomat: "If the British Government deprives itself of the services of a diplomat of such merit, it is only because Sir Frank Lascelles worked for fifteen years without permitting himself to be discouraged by numerous checks, to bring about a *rapprochement* between Germany and England. The zeal which he displayed in order to dissipate the misunderstanding which he considered absurd and detrimental *does not correspond with the views of his sovereign.*"

Count de Lalaing, Belgian Minister to London, had no high opinion of the estimate on truth prevailing in the House of Lords, for he writes under date of November 30, 1911: "Lord Courtney of Penrith, a Liberal and a friend of Germany, attacked the policy of the Government (the Entente) because it had been aiming at the isolation of Germany (it is rare to hear *that truth expressed* in the British Parliament) and because it had not upheld the Act of Algeciras." The minister adds: "These disagreeable truths were not to the liking of the House of Lords."

It is impossible within this limited space to follow even remotely the remarkable story of British and French intrigue which the correspondence lays bare, and in almost every page of which the consensus of the Belgian diplomats is remarkable for the frank concession that Germany has no desire for a quarrel and is attending strictly to her own affairs. Baron Beyens, for instance, writes from Berlin November 30, 1912: "There is no doubt that the (German)

Emperor, the Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs are passionately pacific."

But little more space is available for additional citations, of which not even the most interesting or important have been more than casually referred to. In conclusion the writer will cite a report of Baron Beyens to his government, dated April 24, 1914, three months before the war, in which he comments on the official visit of the King and Queen of England to Paris and the then-prevailing relations between France and England:

"For us the most interesting point in connection with the visit of the sovereigns of Great Britain is to know whether the British Government would be as inclined to-day as three years ago to range itself by the side of France in case of a conflict of the latter with Germany. We have had the proof that a co-operation of the British army and the dispatching of an expeditionary corps to the continent have been considered by the military authorities of the two governments (England and France). Would it be the same to-day, *and would we still have to fear the entry of British soldiers into Belgium in order to help us to defend our neutrality by first compromising it?*"

These are not the words of German apologists. This intensely interesting correspondence registers the conviction of five professional students of contemporary international history, living in the three chief capitals of Europe with the advantage of being detached and unprejudiced with regard to the facts. And their convictions are identical.

AN OCTOGENARIAN'S REVENGE

By George Sylvester Viereck

DEAR old Boston has taken its vengeance. When the epoch of Emerson and Longfellow and Lowell had passed away, they still claimed over in Boston to possess the intellectual leadership of the country and called their city "the hub," even when everybody outside of Boston saw quite clearly that the old seat of culture was deserted and that New York had become the literary centre. But at last Boston has shown again that it is the leader. In the hour in which the spirit of the country is filled with emotion against Germany, Boston rises to truly gigantic heights of hatred. New York must yield the laurels to the band of pilgrims' sons who are perhaps not many but whose voices are clamorous. Even among the venerable octogenarians, who seem to dominate America, what is the one Choate in New York against the ancient twins, Charles W. Eliot and Henry L. Higginson in Boston. Theirs is indeed true leadership. But the case of Higginson deserves special attention. It throws such unique light on the morality of those war-loan discussions. Many houses, and Higginson's banking house among them, have undertaken the great loan for England and France. But for Higginson that is not enough ammunition for the Allies. He takes the lead in the glorious movement to put twenty-five millions of American savings into the support of half bankrupt Italy. But even that is not enough. He feels that he must help those loans by a fervent speech against Germany, and it is this speech at the dinner of the Boston Credit Men's Association which deserves a hearing.

Who is the man who now takes the lead in the abuse of Germany, the Germans and especially of the German government? First, his own wife is a German, brought up in Karlsruhe, that lovely unprotected town in which the aviators of the Allies have recently killed twenty-nine women and children. We despise a man who defiles his own nest, but what about the character of the man who soils the nest from which his mate came? But furthermore, Henry L. Higginson has one great merit which no friend of America will deny. He has created and supported the Boston Symphony Orchestra. This secures for him a certain national gratitude, as it is the leading orchestra of the country, and has contributed tremendously to American culture. The conductors of this orchestra have been Gericke, Nikisch, Pauer, Fiedler and Muck, Germans from the first day to the last. The leading members of the orchestra to-day are Witek, Noak, Roth, Koessler, Habernicht at the desk of the violinist, Warncke, Malkin, Barth at the desk of the celloist, and so on. In short, it is a German orchestra which has won the triumphs on which Higginson's credit rests. He shows his gratitude by the meanest abuse of the Germans. But he is more specific. He hates the German Government. What has the German Government ever done to him? Mr. Higginson knew that the success of his concerts at a critical time seven years ago depended upon securing Karl Muck as conductor, but Muck was under contract with the royal opera in Berlin. He appealed to the Emperor, and by a special act of courtesy and as a special sign of friendship for America, the German Government and the Emperor decided to give Muck a two years' leave for the purpose of helping Mr. Higginson's plans in Boston. The Emperor, however, at that time was too busy to see Mr. Higginson personally. Mr. Higginson waited for weeks at his hotel hoping to be able to meet the Emperor. Then and there was born his hatred for Germany. He finally departed deeply chagrined at his failure to meet his benefactor. Now he pays his debt of gratitude and shows his real character by denouncing the Emperor and his government as faithless and treacherous.

It is hard to read his speech with a serious face. He says we dislike the German form of government "because we don't propose to give up our individual liberty, to be told what we are to eat, what we are to drink, and in a word, be dominated by the State in every feature of our lives." It is true the German Government looks into the question of eating, inasmuch as it would not tolerate the amount of adulteration of food which some American communities can stand. But if a Bostonian stands up and says that he wants individual liberty and not to be told what he is to drink, there ought to be hearty laughter from Munich to Maine. Has Mr. Higginson really never observed in the many years he lived over there, that there is endlessly more individual freedom just in these habits of life and personal ways which he mentions, than in the uniformized, standardized American society where every one must wear the same hat and the same collar? But probably Mr. Higginson feels that Americans, even in war-time, would not be deceived by such absurdities, and so he comes with at least one great political argument. To quote the Boston *Transcript*, the noble brother of the New York *Evening Post*: "He urged that the United States amend its naturalization laws to prevent a German or any other alien from becoming a citizen of this country unless he should be released by his native government from loyalty to it," and "Major Henry L. Higginson would not admit any more Germans to citizenship in this country unless their native government should absolve them from allegiance, and though under existing conditions he realizes that the German Government would not do this, he stands for the suggestion just the same." The whole article in the *Transcript* had the headline "WOULD CUT OFF GERMANS."

Now every one who knows the international situation knows that France and Italy are the two countries which not only allow but solemnly uphold the principle of dual citizenship while Germany clearly rejects it. France and Italy hold that the man who is born on their soil can never lose his native citizenship, and if he becomes naturalized in America, he remains a Frenchman or an Italian nevertheless and has to serve with the army of his country if he happens to be on his native soil when a war breaks out. Germany takes exactly the opposite ground. A German who has become naturalized in America has lost by virtue of that act his German citizenship. It is true that the German law allows in exceptional cases dual citizenship with special permission of the home government, but this permission never applies to the United States of America, because the naturalization act there includes a direct renouncing of the native allegiance. Those exceptional permissions are given especially in semi-civilized lands where the commercial man goes for a limited time but is at a commercial disadvantage when he does not take up citizenship for the period of his stay. There are millions of German-born American citizens to-day, not one of whom is at the time a German citizen, while French and Italian-born American citizens are by the law of their native land at the same time Frenchmen and Italians. To present this international dual citizenship as if the Allies had nothing to do with such a doubtful practice, but as if the Germans were the sinners is a distortion of the political truth from which other men would shrink even when the aim is to stir up courage for the buying of bonds in the war loan.

THE FATHERLAND

Fair Play for Germany and Austria-Hungary

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 24, 1915

AN ACT OF GOD

IN spite of denials, it is known that hundreds of cannon have been destroyed in the recent fire at the Bethlehem Steel Works. What is more, the entire output of heavy artillery from the Bethlehem plant has been paralyzed for a year. This means more than a lost battle to the cause of the Allies. The officials of the Bethlehem Steel Works maintain that the fire was the result of an accident. The English Press Bureau places the blame on German "spies." Both are wrong. Once again Providence interposed on the side of the Germans. The fire at the Bethlehem murder plant restores one's faith in eternal justice. IT WAS INDEED AN ACT OF GOD.

IF THE CASE WERE REVERSED

"IF the case were reversed," a member of the 7th Regiment, of purely Anglo-American stock, recently remarked to the editor of THE FATHERLAND, "if Germany was perverting all her industries for the purpose of manufacturing murderous engines of destruction against the United States, I certainly would blow up their factories if I could." There is hardly an American alive who would not endorse this sentiment. There is scarcely a German who would not repudiate it. The German loves his country as truly as the American. He is willing to sacrifice his own life for his Fatherland. But the respect for order is so deeply ingrown in his being that he is temperamentally incapable of acts of lawless violence. That is part and parcel of German discipline and German culture. For that reason tales of organized "plots" under German direction to set fire to factories or blow up munition plants deserve scant credence. There may be individual transgressors, but no group of Germans could be guilty of such actions no matter how well justified it might be. To the German crimes of this description are crimes against nature.

MR. RATHOM AND HIS TRAINED BATTLESNAKES

THIS time it is a former Austrian Consul who, for reasons not far to seek, provides the *Providence Journal* with "copy." Any one who remembers the record of mendacity enjoyed by this journal, would refuse to consider its fabrications as anything except melodramatic fiction, oozing as venom out of the fang of a serpent, from the versatile brain of its editor. Not so our Federal Government. The cock and bull stories of this discredited sheet are actually "investigated." Nothing is ever proved by these investigations. But at least the American public, fooled by the prostitute press, forgets for the moment the abject surrender of the Administration to the insolence of Great Britain. The effect of these stories is, however, beginning to pall. Every time a stronger application of the poison is needed. We may soon be immune to Mr. Rathom and his brood of trained rattlesnakes. The American people may like to be humbugged, but they are subject to VERY SUDDEN AWAKENINGS.

THE *ANCONA*

AN Austrian submarine has sunk the Italian steamer *Ancona* in the Mediterranean. The submarine hailed the liner and demanded immediate surrender. This is the business of war. The paramount duty of the captain of the *Ancona* was to haul down his flag and comply with the demand of the submarine commander. Had he any humane regard for the women and children aboard his vessel he would certainly have done this. But instead he ordered full steam ahead, knowing that the submarine would be compelled to attack him. The captain of the *Ancona* deserves the bitter censure of the world. Next to him the guiltiest offender in this matter is the United States Government, which failed completely to safeguard American lives by not warning its citizens of the dangers involved in traveling on belligerent vessels. We again call the attention of Mr. Lansing to the following order issued at the outbreak of the Russian-Japanese war by the British Consulate at Shanghai, China:

All subjects of the Crown are notified that the British Government will not undertake to be responsible for the safety of any British subject leaving this port on a ship of either of the belligerent nations.

If Mr. Lansing were to issue a similar order, American lives would not be destroyed in the European conflict.

THE KAISER'S TRIP TO CONSTANTINOPLE

THE victorious German troops and their Bulgarian allies have hacked their way through Servia. The road to Constantinople is clear. The road to Constantinople is the road to Egypt and India. Shortly the Kaiser will pass to Sofia on his way to the Golden Horn. His voice, like Cæsar's trumpets, will be heard throughout the Orient. Traffic on the Suez Canal has stopped, but the heart of Egypt is waking. From Egypt to India, the nations crushed down by the heel of the British Colossus, expectantly wait for their savior. The Emir of Afghanistan has opened hostilities against England. The Nizam of Hyderabad has been deposed by his people for being pro-British. He was one of the three most important princes of India, for he is entitled to a salute of twenty-one shots. This means that he is looked upon as a full-fledged sovereign, the equal of any king. From Hyderabad to Cairo mutiny raises its head. Even Kitchener can save neither Egypt nor India to Britain. Throughout the world turbaned warriors wait for a sign of the German eagle.

WHAT IS HIS MOTIVE?

WHILE Mr. Asquith admits that England is in a serious financial predicament, while Lord Milner declares that she is facing bankruptcy, and Sir George Paish, the greatest living English economist, foresees the suspension of species payment, Mr. Adolph Ochs, of the New York *Times*, implores the United States to extend additional credit to the battered and broken "Allies." In his editorials he fervently sings the praises of the Anglo-French loan, which even that Anglo-hyphen, Colonel Harvey, refuses to regard as an investment. We could understand the motives of Mr. Ochs when he boosted Marconi stock. What is his motive this time?

AMERICA FIRST

THE Administration organs, despairing of victory by any honest appeal to the American people, attempt to make the battle cry "America First" an issue in the presidential campaign. "America First," as the *Sun* for once truthfully points out, is a principle, not an issue. It is a principle, moreover, for which all Americans stand, with the exception of those Morgan-Americans who have sold Uncle Sam into bondage to England.

GERMAN "CANAILLE" AND "VULGARIANS"

AS we happen to know that a great many readers of THE FATHERLAND have for years been regular readers of *The Ladies' Home Journal,* we feel sure that they will be interested in a story in that periodical in which a young American is made to use the following language regarding the German people:

> "'Neutral!' The boy flung the word back. 'Neutral!' When it means civilization against barbarism! Gentlemen against Huns; Englishmen and Frenchmen whom we know for straight and clean, against—the unspeakable German! From the Kaiser down—seventy million of canaille; a nation of vulgarians glorified by brains—which can't save 'em. His fist banged on the oak table. 'Which can't save 'em from their vulgarity. Breeding is blood, not brains. I've been in Germany; I know 'em. A beastly lot of day-laborers, the whole lot, high and low.'"

The author of this appalling statement placed in the mouth of one of her characters is **Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews.** And this ladylike speech is printed in a journal devoted to the interests of the gentler sex in our neutral country. It advertises the story as "the greatest story the war has produced." American women of German descent no doubt will be elated with this reminder that they are related to a nation of "canaille" and "vulgarians," "day-laborers" and brutes.

Drawn for THE FATHERLAND *by A. Staehle.*
WHAT IS A TREATY BETWEEN FRIENDS?

JOHN WANAMAKER IN BAD COMPANY

IT is strange with what multiform virtues certain individuals manage to bedeck themselves in order to beguile the American public, and how invariably the same names appear and reappear in connection with every form of agitation to poison the American mind against Germany and the Germans. Mr. Collman has shown that most of the advocates of the loan of $500,000,000 are the creatures of John Pierpont Morgan, and, traced to their source, these attorneys of "the Interests" are directors in banks, life insurance companies, etc., who are using the people's money to aid England and her dupes. Now here is the "National Allied Relief Committee," which appeals for funds to all classes of Americans, neutral as they are officially claimed to be, in the following terms:

> Your sympathy with the great-hearted part America has played in the war—relieving the pitiful suffering brought *upon defenseless women and children by the greed of Prussianized Germany*—has helped to make possible the faithful performance of America's duty. *Until the Allies have accomplished their part, have saved Europe from Prussian militarism,* America must not falter. We need your continued help, and we shall continue to discharge faithfully the trust you place in us.

This appeal is signed by Henry W. Taft as secretary. Taft is a brother of the ex-President, who has declared that he indorses President Wilson's construction of American neutrality from soup to nuts. Mr. Taft is a corporation lawyer and a trustee of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, which openly admits having subscribed to three million dollars worth of Morgan's bonds.

The honorary president of the committee is our ancient friend, Prof. Charles W. Eliot, who in 1913 praised German civilization to the skies, and in 1914 fairly challenged the laurels of a Billingsgate fishwife in denouncing Germany. We find the name of Norman Hapgood as chairman of the executive committee. Mr. Hapgood is editor of *Harper's Weekly,* once famous, now one of the group of barkers of the British press bureau. We are informed that Mr. Hapgood is descended from a respectable Jewish family named Habgut, but that the name was Anglicised to Hapgood to cover up its origin. Also the name of August Belmont, descended from a family once known as Schoenberg, now a Christian financier, who has donated aeroplanes and other things to the French in his assumed capacity of a Frenchman. Belmont is the head of the Wall Street banking firm which represents the Rothschilds, and is interested in so many corporations that it would consume too much space to print a list of them.

Also, among the names, is that of Roosevelt's friend, Gifford Pinchot, brother-in-law of an English lordling and himself ordered out of Belgium by the German authorities. Again we come across the familiar name of Myron T. Herrick, our ex-Ambassador to France, and a political side-partner to Choate, Root, Roosevelt, Morgan and others.

Analyzed, it is the same old band of agitators which has appeared under various other disguises. The only name that seems not to harmonize with the general character of this *quasi* charitable propagandist committee is that of John Wanamaker. We have some doubt that Mr. Wanamaker knew what he signed when he affixed his name to this Wall Street pronunciamento, and it might not be out of place to address a polite inquiry to him whether he indorses the committee's language.

Owing to the present lower exchange rate in Mark, we offer—until further notice—

New German 5% War Loan
Interest beginning April 1, 1916
at $203.75 per 1,000 Mark

We also offer—subject to prior sale—

Imperial German 4% Bonds
at $186.50 per 1,000 Mark

These Imperial German 4% Bonds are not callable before 1918, redeemable at par, that is, a bond of M. 1,000 par will be redeemed by the Government for 1,000 Mark.

The value of the Mark before the war was 23¾ cents, or **$237.50** for **1,000 Mark.**

Our selling price for these bonds today is..... **$186.50** for **1,000 Mark.**

5½% Third Austrian War Loan
Redeemable in 1930
1,000 Kronen $142.50

6% Third Hungarian War Loan
Not callable before 1921
1,000 Kronen $147.50

We deliver all these securities free of expense, at option of buyer, in all parts of the United States, in Germany, Austria or Hungary, to any bank or individual.

Our Correspondents are:
IN GERMANY—Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank
IN AUSTRIA and HUNGARY—Wiener Bank-Verein and Allgemeine Ungarische Creditbank

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In the Fatherland

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5 pounds A-1 Quality Coffee, Green or Roasted, for.....$1.85
10 " A-1 " " " " " 3.65

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Send Your Order without delay, enclosing stamps or money order, and full address of the person to whom you wish us to make shipment. If you wish, a printed card may be enclosed showing who the gift is from.

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ONE BLOCK EAST OF HANOVER SQUARE STATION, 3rd or 2nd AVE. "L"

FINANCIAL FORUM

Any reader wishing advice or information regarding his securities or prospective investments, address Financial Editor *Fatherland*, 1123 Broadway, New York. All inquiries confidential. All advice free.

THE stock market is assuming a still more uncertain tone. The speculative shares are beginning to swing in wide ranges. Bethlehem varied 45 points, Baldwin Locomotive 22 points, Studebaker 27, Maxwell Motors 19 and Willys-Overland 38 points. Call money ruled about 1¾ per cent. This cheapness tempted some speculative investors to try a gamble in the Anglo-French bonds. They attempted to buy them on small margins, and then raise loans on them in the Morgan banks. To their sorrow they learned that the banks would not loan money on the bonds at the call money rate, but that a rate of 4 per cent was exacted on such "special loans." There is evidently not much of a chance for making money in these war bonds.

Bond House Comment

Zimmermann & Forshay say: Peace is coming nearer day by day, with the continuance of victories by the Central Powers. The time is approaching when Germany and Austria will also be the strongest powers in Europe from financial and commercial standpoints. The securities of these countries, therefore, should offer the best opportunities for investment, with the prospect of substantial gains in the capital invested. To merchants who purchase such securities from us, we will make liberal advances on either our interim certificates or the definitive bonds.

* * *

Wollenberger & Company, of Chicago, one of the first houses in this country that undertook the distribution of German war bonds, says: "These bonds, as well as the rates of exchange for Marks and Kronen, should advance considerably with the end of the war, if not before, and, in our estimation, can then be resold at a gain of from 20% to 35%."

The Mail Box

F. G., Brooklyn, N. Y.—Your money, I think, is perfectly safe in the South Brooklyn Savings Bank and the Dime Savings Bank. The German Savings Bank, of Broadway, Brooklyn, however, does not permit the use of its surplus funds by Morgan Syndicate Banks.

H. M., Wilkinsburg, Pa.—You need have no cause for uneasiness regarding the bonds. Both issues are guaranteed by strong companies. The majority of these issues are legal investments for savings banks in the States having the strictest

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95 River Str. Hoboken, N. J.

banking laws in the Union. There is no reason why they will not advance in price again—at any rate they are a perfectly safe investment and there is no need to sell them at a loss.

L. A., New York.—Your money is absolutely safe in the North River Savings Bank.

W. E. L., Athens, O.—Neither of the two companies you mention has taken any interest in the Anglo-French loan.

I. H. D., Lancaster, Pa.—The three banks you mention are taking no share in the Anglo-French loan. I judge the German war bonds or the Imperial loan bonds advertised as presenting a safe investment opportunity in which, moreover, there are substantial profits to be made in the near future. It would most certainly not be an unneutral act for you to buy German Government bonds. Not one-tenth as unneutral as it is for J. P. Morgan to sell shrapnel to the Allies.

A. J. T., Glencoe, Minn.—As you have undoubtedly read, by this time, in our issue of November 3rd, Mr. Charles Peabody, President of the Mutual Life, admits that he has bought three millions in Anglo-French bonds for the company and refuses to state whether he is keeping his surplus funds on deposit with the Morgan Syndicate.

I. L., New York.—Of the four banks you mention, the Bowery Savings Bank is the safest custodian for your funds. However, we cannot learn from the officials of the Bowery Bank whether they are keeping their surplus reserves on deposit with the Morgan Syndicate Banks in Wall Street.

The German Savings Bank in Fourteenth Street has announced, however, that none of its funds are being used in the war loan.

I think that your policy in the New York Life is quite safe. However, we are trying to learn whether it also keeps its funds on deposit in the Morgan Banks.

K. G., San Francisco, Cal.—The laws of New York State are so strict in their regulation of savings banks that I think the majority of them are as safe as human laws can make them. The institution you mention, the United States Savings Bank, is a safe institution, so far as my information is available. I may mention the fact, however, that when we sent an inquiry to this bank whether it was using its funds directly or indirectly in the Anglo-French loan, or had any of its reserves on deposit in the Morgan Syndicate Banks of Wall Street, the officials would make no reply. In the circumstances, it is only just to say that the German Savings Bank in East Fourteenth Street, a much stronger institution, in fact, one of the strongest in the city, has made public the fact that none of its funds are being used by Wall Street institutions for the foreign war loans.

J. H. S., Spokane, Wash.—I was much

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pleased to receive your sympathetic letter, but I do not consider your project quite practicable. But keep yourself in the same frame of mind. We will yet find means to bring the plotting British bankers of Wall Street to book, and you will yet be serviceable in the cause.

E. H. N., Los Angeles, Cal.—I think you were quite wise in canceling the policy in the London Company. With regard to the German-American Company, officers of the company state that they are not subscribing to the loan, but we have received no assurance from them whether or not they keep their surplus funds on deposit in the Morgan Syndicate Banks which have underwritten the loan. This is a much more serious question, and I hope that the company may yet make a satisfactory reply. The Aachen & Munich Insurance Company, whose funds in this country amply protect their policyholders, have given us positive assurances that they do not permit their surplus in any manner to be used by the syndicate banking group for the purpose of the war loan.

M. A. S., Washington, D. C.—The Metropolitan Life has not invested in the Anglo-French loan, and it cannot write policies in England or France, since its charter does not permit this, and it has established no foreign branches. You are quite right, however, in suspecting that the provisions of the law may be evaded. Mr. Hegeman, President of the company, attended the meeting in the Morgan Library. He refuses to give us any assurance whether the surplus funds of his company are on deposit with the Morgan Syndicate Banks of Wall Street, that are the underwriters of the loan. Many of such companies keep millions upon millions of their funds in the Wall Street Banks, and in these days that does not appear to be a very wise proceeding.

C. H. J., Tonopah, Nevada.—You will notice that Mr. Hegeman, President of the Metropolitan Life, refuses, however, to reply to the more important query, whether his company has its reserve funds on deposit with the Morgan banks that are the underwriters of the $500,000,000 Anglo-French loan. This is of great importance, and we think he should be compelled to answer. If his reserves are on deposit in such banks or trust companies, they must be at once withdrawn. We may yet see developments tending to this end.

Spring-Rice's Italian Hand

(*Private cable service of* THE FATHERLAND)

LONDON, December 1, 1915. Mr. Asquith just sent for your correspondent. The door had hardly closed behind me when he broke forth: "Damn the prize courts! We have more American sausages on our hands than we know what to do with." "Embalmed," interjected I, "or jungle?" "No, no!" said he, "from Chicago." Then, after more profanity, he continued: "Listen! We want to give them away. Do you suppose the saloon-keepers among the German-Americans could be prevailed upon to—to—. Can't you guess?" "I think I can," said I, "but—" "What but?" roared he, "can't we even give them away? And Chicago clamoring for damages!" "Well," said I, "if you can fix it so they won't know where the sausages come from." "That part is easy," interrupted Mr. Asquith, "they will come from the American Department of Commerce." "But what will our State Department say?" queried I. "Why, it is their scheme," said

he. "They wrote us a note about it. Wilson wants to catch the German vote." I hurried to the Morse-Key.

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Fair Play for Germany and Austria-Hungary

Edited by
GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERECK

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